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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 117408
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 /025 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:IO/LABJLEWIS
APPROVED BY:IO/SA:TBROWN
----------047699 090659Z /17
R 090016Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON 3733

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PLEASE PASS TO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DALLEY

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 6997 ACTION SECSTATE INFO LONDON
AND MOSCOW DATED MAY 8, 1978M.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 06997

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: ILO, PLAB
SUBJECT: ILO: DIRECTOR GENERAL COMMENTS ON AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL AND THE SOVIET UNION

REF: GENEVA 6043 (NOTAL)

1. DURING MEETING MAY 5 BETWEEN ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL
BLANCHARD AND IMEC REPS, BLANCHARD COMMENTED ON A REPORT
BY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL "PSYCHIATRIC ABUSES DOCUMENTED
BY WORKERS GROUP IN THE USSR". BLANCHARD SAID THE
REPORT RAISED QUESTIONS AS TO WHETHER FREEDOM OF ASSOCIA-
TION EXISTS IN THE USSR. HE STATED HE WOULD RAISE
THIS ISSUE WITH SOVIET AUTHORITIES DURING A TRIP TO
MOSCOW BEGINNING MAY 9.
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2. BLANCHARD STATED THE AMNESTY REPORT PROMPTED INQUIRIES
AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS ABOUT THE ROLE OF THE ILO. HE
INFORMED AMNESTY THAT THE ILO HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF FAILING
TO RECOGNIZE A TRADE UNION. BUT THE ILO HAS NO AUTHORITY
TO TAKE THIS STEP. THE ILO IS EQUIPPED TO PROTECT TRADE
UNIONS ONLY AFTER A COMPLAINT HAS BEEN FILED IN ACCORDANCE

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WITH THE ILO CONSTITUTION. NO COMPLAINT HAS YET BEEN RECEIVED. BLANCHARD TOLD IMEC REPS HE INFORMED THE SOVIET MISSION IN GENEVA OF THE EXCHANGE WITH AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. HE SAID THE SOVIETS REACTED "MOODILY"; THAT SOVIET REP, BORCHTCHEVSKI, ACCUSED THE ILO OF BEING PREJUDICED (AGAINST THE SOVIETS).

3. BLANCHARD SAID HE HOPED THAT IF THERE IS TO BE ANY EFFORT ON THE PART OF ILO MEMBERS TO DEAL WITH THE SUB-STANCE OF THE AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT, IT WOULD BE DONE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CONVENTION ON FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION RATHER THAN BY WAY OF A CONFERENCE RESOLUTION. VANDEN HEUVEL UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, UNION GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE117408
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/LABJLEWIS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780195-1002
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780578/aaaacolw.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0d0fb1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 GENEVA 6043
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2747321
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILO: DIRECTOR GENERAL COMMENTS ON AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AND THE SOVIET UNION
TAGS: ELAB, PORG, UR, ILO, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, IMEC, (BLACNCHARD, FRANCIS)
To: KINGSTON
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0d0fb1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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